

TOC H JOURNAL



MAY
1958

PRESENTING NEWS, VIEWS AND IDEAS



**PUBLISHED BY TOC H AT FORTY-SEVEN
FRANCIS STREET • LONDON • S.W. 1**



'Mixture of Men'

The second printing of this new colourful introductory folder is now ready. It is available to Branches at 8s. 6d. per 100. For a specimen copy send a stamped addressed envelope to Toc H Publications, 47 Francis Street, S.W.1.

The Torch Players

"The Merry Wives of Windsor" by William Shakespeare is being presented at Wimbledon Town Hall, Monday, 12 to Thursday, 15 May, at 7.30 p.m. For free numbered and reserved seats send a stamped, addressed envelope to the Box Office Manager, 36 Kenley Road, S.W.19.

Acknowledgements

We are indebted to the "South China Morning Post" for the photographs reproduced on pages 166 and 167, to A. Little for the one on page 164, to A. Blanchard for that on page 185, and to Ralph Daniels for the Singapore group on page 194.

Advertisements

Enquiries from Advertisers with products of interest to our readers are most welcome. Rates and details will be readily supplied. Readers can greatly help by letting us know of manufacturers prepared to give consideration to advertising their products in the Journal.

Ourselves

The Toc H Journal is published monthly, eleven times a year. The April issue is a double number and there is no August number. A subscription can commence with any issue and costs only 9s. for a complete year.

N.B.—A price concession to 7s. 6d. per dozen, post free, is made to all Branches ordering a minimum of one dozen copies.

THIRTY-SIXTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION

TOC H JOURNAL



MAY 1958

Letters and articles are welcomed and are
printed as individual points of view only

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

In and Out	162	Notes and Comment
Street Sleepers—I	164	Barclay Baron
Multum in Parvo	168	Much in Little
Building Operations	169	Eric Freeman
Creative Suffering	173	Cyril Cattell
Gate-keeper Peter	174	Dorothy Flann
One Family	175	Johnnie MacMillan
Ministry of Works	177	Colin Campbell
Open Hustings	179	Readers' Letters
After 400 Years	181	Frank Davis
The Elder Brethren	185	Roll of Honour
Let's make a Panto	190	Ken Willis
Far Cry. Overseas Notes	192	Geoff Martin
Old Folks' Welfare	195	Fred Veevers
From All Parts	198	Area News

COVER PICTURE: Characters from the cast of the play "Reluctant Heroes" performed by Marksmen of Toc H Mark VII in the Fellowship Hall, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, London. Three outstanding performances raised £50 for the National Spastics Society and also helped the Mark's House Fund.

EDITORIAL OFFICE · TOC H, 47 FRANCIS ST
LONDON SW1 · TELEPHONE VICTORIA 0354



In and Out

notes and comment

Jobs for the Boys

DURING THE COMING summer holidays there will be numbers of senior boys (seventeen or over) in schools affiliated to Toc H who might be roped in

to give a hand with summer camps or similar activities run by Toc H for children. Quite a number helped in this way last year and proved themselves of real value, particularly with the games side of camp life. This year we should like to increase the number of such helpers. Any Branch, therefore, which is planning to run such a camp and would like additional help of this kind, is asked to write as soon as ever possible to Alec Churcher, the Schools Secretary at Toc H Headquarters, giving particulars of the camp, *i.e.*, dates, place, cost (to a helper) if any, and the number of seventeen-year-olds who could be usefully employed. He will then do his best to find the right senior boys from affiliated schools to lend a hand. This is an excellent way of introducing youngsters to Toc H and one that shouldn't be missed.

Winants Return

THIS YEAR'S PARTY OF WINANT VOLUNTEERS, composed of young men and women students from American Universities, will be fifty strong. Crossing the Atlantic by chartered plane, they are scheduled to first visit Scotland, where they will be staying for five days on Iona, and are due to arrive in London to take up their vacation work in hard-pressed East End parishes, on June 26. An attractive illustrated brochure telling of the far-reaching services the Winants render is in the press and copies (price 1s. 6d.) will shortly be available.

Shared Service

THE MARCH NUMBER OF "THE SCOUTER", in a review of Alec Churcher's book on Job-mastery, *The Second Mile*, has this to say: "Toc H places great value on the post of Jobmaster. We have no such title, but the responsibility for doing the job rests on G.S.M.s, Rover leaders and S.M.s(S). It is their job to know their men and their capacities and what training they need, as well as to obtain a picture of local needs. It might be well worth-while linking up with the local Toc H Branch, and seeing whether there are any jobs of service which we could share with them."

All Hallows History

THE BARE LIST OF NAMES OF THE CLERGY WHO have served All Hallows by-the-Tower since 1269 is in itself an index to the history of England. What happened, we wonder, to Vicar Edmund Chaderton in 1492, for he was succeeded the very next year by Rad. Derlove. Thomas Clendon, although labelled "Commonwealth intruder" seems to have successfully clung to the post from 1642 until 1662, while William Geekie (1732-1767) held the long-distance record until the coming of the present incumbent, Philip Thomas Byard Clayton, who was inducted in 1922. All this, and much else beside, is chronicled in most readable fashion, together with first-class illustrations, in *A History of All Hallows by-the-Tower*, written by John Durham, the Deputy Vicar. Newly published at All Hallows Porchroom for a modest half-a-crown, this up-to-date account of the Guild Church's history will be welcomed by many members.

Sartorial Note

NEW DESIGNS FOR A TIE AND SCARF, alternatives to the existing ones, are announced on the back cover of this number. The tie is navy blue with miniature gold Lamps and the sixty-inch scarf is of Saxony cloth made up into stripes of black, amber and white. Charles Thompson, who handles the Club Colours of many organisations, says that there is a marked trend today towards wearing a crested tie in place of the familiar club stripe variety, and now members will be able to make their own choice.

Twenty Questions ?

"TOP ITCH," SAID THE MYSTERY VOICE. SO IT sounded to me. "He said Top Itch," I remarked. "Maybe their way of saying dan-druff." "No," said Nelle, "I think he said Talk Itch." "He said it was animal," I argued, "and Talk Itch isn't animal. I wouldn't think, but Top Itch could be animal." The panelists got it narrowed down to a point where the chairman admitted that the subject had to do with ideas—or maybe he said ideals—and that it was human, a group of humans who had either ideas or ideals, and then one of the men said, "Could it be Talk Itch?" Begob he had it! "Talk Itch my hind foot!" I said, and turned the thing off before it was finished and tried to read a book, but I couldn't concentrate for worrying about Talk Itch. Finally I rang Enquiry. "Could you tell me what Talk Itch is?" I asked the man. He repeated it to himself a couple of times. "I think," I said, "that it might be a religion of some kind." "Paps," he said, "you mean Talk Aitch." He then explained that Talk Aitch is an organisation which I judge to be somewhat similar to our American Legion, and I asked him how to spell it, and it comes out, rather ridiculously, Toc H. From *Smith's London Journal*, by H. Allen Smith (Arthur Barker Ltd.).

Street Sleepers—I

BARCLAY BARON

In this first half of his article, Barkis describes a Chinese New Year's Party organised by Toc H members for some of the very poorest inhabitants of Hong Kong, where he has been on a visit

THERE CANNOT be a noisier festival in the world than Chinese New Year in February. There are two days of official public holiday but the crackers go rattling on, day and night, for a week—millions of crackers, festoons of them, hundreds in a string hoisted up the face of a house.



The Writer

The fire brigade is kept busy, a few children lose their eyesight. From the top of the peak from which we look down on the homes of over two million people in Hong Kong and Kowloon across the harbour the cannonade and the smoke of fireworks is like an old-fashioned battlefield. And, even if the coasts of Red China are only on our horizon, everything about New Year is traditionally red. The exploded crackers are red, leaving the pavements bright as with blood; slogans and good wishes in gold Chinese characters on red paper hang round every door and window; pictures of a pair of red-faced legendary generals hang beside the entry to most houses to keep away the seventy-two evil spirits which beset Chinese family

life: everybody gives everybody 'lucky money', whether dollars or mere cents, in a little red envelope with a gold picture on it. Presents are exchanged, debts are paid; a good time is had by all, even if some are broke by the end.

The racket of the festival had died down, the red decorations were mostly swept up before the Kowloon group of Toc H, a small but determined unit, came to an annual job of helping to throw a New Year's party at which the guests

are chronically broke, whether the year is new or old. For these are the women and children in one of the three centres run by the Street Sleepers Shelter Society. The group has a special interest all the year round in this particular shelter. Its members originally helped to secure two large disused Service huts, Nissen pattern, dismantled them themselves—to the great detriment of their hands and clothes—and got the serviceable parts of them reconstructed as one long room on a patch of waste land (and that is an excessive rarity now) in the heart of the Chinese city.

The shelter is lined along both sides with a close-set row of double-decker iron bedsteads, with planks for mattresses—for the Chinese prefer to sleep hard, with a pillow, if any, of wood or porcelain. Toc H provides blankets out of a stock of some hundreds allotted to us by welfare agencies. These blankets, essential in the damp, cold Hong Kong winter nights, are usually 'flogged' by their hard-up owners as the spring comes on and have to be replaced. At present they furnish in some sort the beds which sleep seventy women and children, but within a month or two the beds are to be increased by a further line of double-deckers down the middle of the shelter, for the demand is never-ending.

One end of the shelter is partitioned off into two tiny rooms, one the office of the warden, the other the living room of himself and his wife and two children. The warden is a soft-spoken, well-dressed young Chinese who not so long ago arrived in Hong Kong from Communist China as a penniless, homeless refugee like the rest. On the monthly wage of a garden-boy he now rules this little kingdom of the lost with a kindly discipline and devoted service. On several evenings in the week Michael Cheney, the Toc H secretary who is on the Shelter committee, drops in to spend time with him going over accounts and helping him to deal with problems. For a hard-driven woman may be 'difficult', another may urgently need a bed in a hospital or her child a place in a school—and every hospital and school in Hong Kong is full to overflowing. In all this work our women members in Kowloon stand beside the men.

On the night of our party the warm, well-lit shelter kept silence about its tragic histories. Inside it was full of smiles and chatter and children playing; outside it was beset by an audience of intensely curious men trying to get a glimpse



"I was invited to open the ball by ladling out soup"

through the windows. Circular folding tables and low camp stools, brought in by a contractor for the feast, thickly covered the central space and now they were piled with the food in big bowls, Chinese-fashion. And it was a feast indeed: soup, savoury beef, curried chicken and more than 'two veg.', pork and rice were on the menu—especially rice without which no food is a meal in China. I was invited to open the ball by ladling out soup: a small boy gazed up under my arm in wonder, a toothless old lady of seventy cackled with delight, the T.V. man insisted on shots which appeared that night in Hong Kong Rediffusion. The 'nippies' got very busy—eight most lively and efficient young girls in the smart uniform, rather like Wrens, of the Chinese Red Cross. The many pairs of white chopsticks flashed back and forth round the bowls, the shrill talk and laughter kept pace with them. It was long indeed since the guests had enjoyed so princely a spread.

Before the tables, now well sprinkled with the wet overflow of food (also Chinese-fashion!), were folded up and taken away, the New Year's gifts came on. Already during the meal an unobtrusive check of the guests had been made and each woman on the register had made her mark (few indeed could sign their names in the complicated Chinese charac-

ters) and received a slip of paper. Now in exchange for the slip a red 'lucky money' envelope was put into her hand. It contained a crisp ten-dollar note (the Hong Kong dollar is worth sixteen to the pound), a pearl of great price to many a recipient. No one enjoyed the sight of these guests clutching their envelopes, with the children fingering the contents, more than the anonymous donor of the feast, a Chinese business man who acts as honorary treasurer of the shelter.

Meanwhile the noise and the temperature rose steeply as the children received their oranges, sweets, balloons and toys. The favourites were the inevitable gangster guns which fired red caps—how every Chinese loves a bang!—and little tin railway engines which coughed brilliant sparks from their funnels as they raced in all directions across the floor.



"Chopsticks flashed round the bowls"

The ruins of the feast were gone, its furniture loaded on to the lorry outside, and while the children revelled in a fantasy-world of guns, engines and flat-faced Chinese dolls, the women sat round, well fed and vastly content, on the plank beds. The toothless grandmother cackled on while her blind neighbour sat silent with an endless smile that touched a very plain face into the beauty that had once been hers. Even in the atmosphere of this happiness the problems of tomorrow could not be quite forgotten. There was, for instance, serious talk with the young widow, most ambitious for her two young children: could they be found, by hook or crook, places in a school? At home where such a question could not possibly arise it is not easy to understand what a long-drawn, complicated and delicate job this ambition of hers poses for Toc H Kowloon. Full of the happiness the night had brought but not unmindful of the jobs here that tomorrow will always bring, we slipped away into the enormous traffic of the city streets, with their jostling crowds round the Chinese shops and cinemas, under their brilliant neon lights.

[To be concluded]



Multum in Parvo much in little

☛ ALEC CHURCHER leaves London for Uganda on May 15, and then at their request will be visiting Toc H in Central Africa and South Africa, who will be covering the expenses of the tour until his return at the end of the year.

☛ Lt.-Col. W. R. ('Tosher') ELLIOTT will be acting as Hon. Schools Secretary from mid-May until mid-September, when KENNETH PRIDEAUX-BRUNE will take over after this year's party of Winant Volunteers has returned to the United States.

☛ THE WINANT AND OSLER VOLUNTEERS will arrive in Scotland on June 20 and go to Iona until June 25, when they will travel to London.

☛ W. TIMOTHY TOBIAS has joined the staff of Toc H and is at present working in the London Areas.

☛ The Rev. NICOLAS D. STACEY, Chaplain to the Bishop of Birmingham, has been appointed Padre (part-time) of Toc H Mark VI, Birmingham.

☛ Padre A. G. (Bob) KNIGHT will be moving soon from the Southern Area to Manchester. He will be working with JACK SHAW in both the Manchester and the North-Western Areas.

☛ An account of the Annual Meeting of the CENTRAL COUNCIL held in London on April 19 and 20 will be published in the next issue of the JOURNAL.

☛ Nominations of candidates to serve as COUNCILLORS for 1958-60 are due from Branches by May 14.

☛ TUBBY will be speaking at meetings in the evenings of May 17 at Birmingham, May 19 at Coventry, and May 20 at Hereford.

☛ MAY 17: Yorkshire Festival at York; Kent Festival at Ramsgate.

☛ JUNE 7: Lakeland Festival at Keswick; June 14: London Sports at Battersea Park; June 28: Mark V Garden Party at Southampton.

☛ EMPIRE GAMES, CARDIFF, July 21-26: Everyone intending to be there is invited to write beforehand to E.G.C., Toc H, 23 St. Mary Street, Cardiff. They will hear something to their advantage and they will be able to help.

☛ The four FARNHAM CASTLE WEEKS in Surrey this August will be the last of the series. Toc H has been privileged to hold there, as the house will be closed at the end of the year.

Building Operations

ERIC FREEMAN

MANY MOONS AGO, there was a much travelled vicar who lived in a very large old vicarage which, in his opinion, needed far more servants than any vicar could ever afford. And so he sought that special time and made many wise remarks and the P.C.C. decided to solve the servant problem by building for the use of the much travelled vicar a much smaller and a labour-saving vicarage.

Now I must tell you a little about the travels of the vicar. During his period of service, when he was busy showing men in uniform the way to heaven, he himself covered many miles of the earth's surface and at one time was at that part of the world which is called the Middle East and there he found and joined and enjoyed, work, play, sandwiches and services with blokes who boasted of Toc H.

On the site

There was also another man who knew Toc H very well and also he knew how a vicarage should be built, and so he was called in by the powers that were and was sent to a special spot to decide how a much smaller labour-saving vicarage should be built.

After some little time the building began to grow and the vicar decided to give it a 'once over', and here is the most exciting affair of all because he met on the site the man who knows Toc H and they talked and talked and that is how it all began.

The new building was growing rapidly and the time was going by but these two men felt that before the vicarage was finished some plans must be made for building something which will outlive even a well built vicarage—that is, the Kingdom of God in the wills of men.

So the man who knew Toc H talked to the Toc H men of *Roughtown* and said there must be a Toc H in the village of *His-le-Don* where there is now a well-built vicarage and the men of *Roughtown* agreed to commence to build Toc H in *His-le-Don*. The vicar was all set to arrange a first meeting and all was going well when he became ill and all arrangements had to be abandoned. However, no-one was down-

hearted and the District Team requested the blokes of *Rough-town* to get together a team who would explore and survey *His-le-Don* with a view to finding its potentialities.

Now *Roughtown* Branch of Toc H is very up and coming and most anxious to spread the Kingdom as well and as much as possible, but I think it did a right and proper job when it reminded the District Team that an extension team of three or four from one Branch was a bit much and that it would leave the Branch thin if they were all absent on the same night. The District Team was sensible and decided to find volunteers from various Branches.

Tricks of the Trade

Meanwhile, one Robert-de-Court, of *His-le-Don*, had attached himself to *Roughtown* Branch and was learning a few things for the good of the Movement. Hence the 'Charley' was found and the Holy Spirit got to work. The Extension Team miraculously came to light and Sawbones came all the way from Corsham complete with Fred from Bristol to initiate the team into all the subtleties of extension work. A scribe with many resources such as typewriter and grapevines appeared as if by magic and a chairman with transport all laid on was there by order of merit.

Sawbones then told of the need for lists and careful choosing and for being quite certain that we build bravely, also of many other tricks of the trade which must be told by him to be fully appreciated.

From this time forth the team worked as a real forward line. Robert-de-Court (the Charley) arranged for the use of his home as a gang meeting room and supplied the best refreshments in Wiltshire, therefore at the first meeting a real good survey gave us twenty blokes who must be tackled and infected with the fever of Toc H. Included in the meeting was the vicar who was most useful in getting names and contacts and who really got us going.

We then sorted out who should contact whom and engineered an assault on *His-le-Don* for the month of January with a further meeting to report progress.

Now comes a little intermission: it was just about this time that we learned that our friend who knows Toc H so well had decided to give the Dominion of Canada a real treat. May God go with him and spread the Kingdom by his hand and heart over there.

This did not deter the valiant team, neither did petrol rationing or a further bout of illness which put the vicar out of commission. Oh no! The team very neatly co-opted Robert-de-Court (Bob for short) and the bloke who thought he was a general member (Geoff) and had a special meeting in February to discuss contacts and how to set *His-le-Don* on the right road.

Many contacts had been made all by personal approach and there was a definite feeling that things must be done before gardening and other springtime activities caught up with us and so a further list of contacts was completed and on the advice of the Area Secretary we arranged a meeting in a fortnight's time to tie everything up.

At the next meeting a full review of all contacts was undertaken and it was agreed to buttonhole the real live blokes on the list by the fan system, that is, each of the extension bods to call for two or three of these real live men as arranged by a letter sent to them, and to move them bodily to the place of the big gang meeting. The special letter sent to them was couched in terms that would leave them in no doubt as to their usefulness in this venture.

The 'Big Gang' numbered fourteen who were unanimous in thinking that Toc H must start and who were prepared to be at the initial meeting and to bring along any others who ought to come.

Underground work

The initial meeting was arranged for a date in April, and posters were displayed at all suitable points in the village. Quite a little underground work was done and the result was that eighteen earnest blokes came to hear Sawbones' talk on the origin of Toc H and its purpose in the world today.

There was a great keenness and arrangements to meet weekly were made forthwith. The Cottage Room is available at a nominal charge (thanks to the vicar whose health is somewhat improved) and each Friday was therefrom destined to be Toc H night.

A chairman for the month has been appointed. A secretary volunteered immediately. A programme secretary and committee are functioning and a treasurer is already talking finance.

Speakers on Toc H subjects are arranged by the gang each fortnight and the alternative meeting is a family night.

The blokes are getting to know each other and the mixture is fairly wide. All sorts of occupation, a mixture of religions and, glory be, a couple who do not belong to any organised body of the Christian Church.

Discussions seem to centre around the purposes of Toc H in the world which is already so full of societies doing much the same thing. There is plenty of divergence of opinion and no lack of voices. They are keen on jobs and are already considering what they should do. Almost straining at the lead in their impatience. Thanks to the Area Staff and the blokes in *Roughtown* there is no lack of supporters and speakers—but here is a challenge. How dull can our Lamp be whilst we still think we can put Toc H over?

Extension is a challenge to us old members to stoke up the embers and show all the new groups like *His-le-Don* that the fire is vital, hot and attractive.

CAR BADGES

BADGES for placing by Toc H members on the front of their cars have been produced under pressure. This refers not only to the pressure exerted on them in the factory but to the persistent demands of some members for them. The Central Guard of the Lamp have been hesitant about a badge that marks a machine rather than a man, but they hope that this one will help to promote further friendliness.



These badges are handsome looking objects, the Lamp being in silver with the flame and Double Cross in amber, set on a deep blue field in a silver frame. They are fitted with ears for screwing on to radiators. If wanted with a lug for fitting to a bumper bar, this should be specified.

Each one is numbered and issued for use only on a car owned and driven by a Toc H member. The price is 35s. post free. When no longer required, the badge can be returned and 10s. refunded to the registered owner.

Creative Suffering

CYRIL CATTELL

IN THE THREE MONTHS left her, fully aware of the nature of her illness and the nearness and inevitability of death, she found her own answer to the problem of suffering." In such terms is the faith of a fifteen-year-old girl, stricken with cancer, described in a book* which bears her name. "Margaret" is a most inspiring and moving story which portrays the indomitable courage and faith of this young girl who died in 1955. James Davidson Ross, her brother-in-law, himself an invalid, remained constantly with Margaret during those last months of her life on earth.

He has here given us a remarkable book throughout which runs his clear conviction that the power of the living Christ can, and does, transform the tragedy of human suffering into the glorious triumph of new life. Margaret's heroic acceptance of the inevitability of pain and death, changed the lives of not only her immediate family circle but many close friends as well. So compelling was her belief in the immortality of the human spirit. "I asked her," says the writer, "if she did not find it wildly improbable that I, who had always been aloof, contemptuous even, of orthodox religion, should suddenly feel so strongly on these matters, because I knew with a strange conviction that Christ, whom I had so often scoffed and derided in the past, was the only answer to our problems, both in this life and the next. Margaret did not find it strange at all; on the contrary she had come face to face with the same reality, and we were talking the same language".

In a foreword to the book, the Bishop of Coventry writes, "This is a story of heroism. It is not unique, for countless others have been given the grace to suffer triumphantly. But the story of Margaret has several unusual features. First, she is unusually young. There can be few girls who have left such a deep imprint upon the lives of family, friends and villagers, as she did. Secondly, few people can have had such a wise and understanding friend, or one so gifted in the art of writing, as she found in the author of this book. With

* *Margaret*. By James Davidson Ross. (Hodder & Stoughton, 12s. 6d.).

deep and moving sincerity he has recorded step by step, the royal road of creative suffering, traversed by a girl with faith and character. It is my hope that many thousands of people will profit by this story. Sufferers from any deadly disease will realise that their sufferings can be used creatively in the lives of others. Suffering is a ministry to which there can be no glib or facile answer. Suffice it to say that the Cross of Calvary reveals a God who is not remote from suffering, but who, in Jesus Christ, came to share and be identified with Mankind in its suffering, and, through His Cross, to give us the power to die to self in order to live in the service of others."

Gate-keeper Peter

Gate-keeper Peter, I picture you wondering
Whether or not from God's porch to let in
Each pilgrim whom death has sent heavenward
blundering:
We're all such mixtures of virtue and sin.

A's philanthropic, but drinks, and loves lechery;
How will he fare when it's his turn to die?
Miss B's kind to children, but malice and treachery
Shows towards old folk; so will she get by?

Those of our actions we think meritorious
Maybe you'll urge us, that day, to forget;
And failures which shamed us may prove humbly
glorious—
Tiddlers of good in your fisherman's net.

Gate-keeper Peter, with task of enormity,
Pray for us, weep for us, laugh gently too;
And when you set eyes on my poor soul's deformity,
Don't bat an eyelid—just let me slip through.

DOROTHY FLANN.

One Family

JOHNNIE MACMILLAN

ON MARCH 22, some three hundred members, friends and Builders, from north, east, west and south, as well as some fifty men and women from the North of England, came to Edinburgh. We began with a Service of Worship at the University, led by Padre Bob Clark of Falkirk, the preacher being Padre Arthur Howard, Honorary Padre of Toc H in Scotland. The singing was led by members of the Edinburgh Churches Choir, and Miss Pat Hebenton of Dundee, and Alex Robertson of Gala, read the Lessons. After the Service all retired to the Students Common Room for tea and a chance to say 'hello' to friends.

The Scottish Secretary welcomed members of the Family from over the Border, or at least that was supposed to be the idea, but it turned out they welcomed themselves. The Chairman, Lord Mathers, then took over to the great enjoyment of everyone, and 'Light' was taken by Miss Anne Dunbar.

Lord Mathers called on Bailie Weatherstone, representing the City and Corporation of Edinburgh, who wished the gathering and the Movement all success.

John Callf then took us on a tour of Toc H in the world, talking about *The World Family*. He showed us the width and breadth of Toc H, and speaking of the art of Jobmastery said it was obvious that we have as much to learn from the distant members of the Family as we have to teach.

After a satisfying high tea, Lord Mathers, with a fine balance of fun and seriousness called on Dr. George MacLeod, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. In his talk on *The National Family*, Dr. MacLeod had some frank things to say about the Scots. The debits were worth studying. On the H Bomb, he reminded us that Light belongs to God, and Toc H with its ceremony of Light should know this. "The most terrifying thing of my time," he declared, "is the extent to which the greatest problem that has ever faced mankind—the problem of nuclear power used destructively—is being worked out by atheists, secularists and humanists, while the churches are dumb." True response to the Light at the moment seemed to be in

the hands of self-confessed atheists like Lord Russell, and humanists, like J. B. Priestley and Sir Stephen King-Hall, while the bearers of Light had nothing to say. When they have something to say, and say it because of Christian conviction, then there will be a new understanding of the living God. It might be in the hands of Christian movements like Toc H to do so, he suggested, but not until they have become concerned with politics.

"It is not enough to say that political issues are going to work themselves out" he added. "There is a searing blast blowing across all political parties today. They are not going to find this new wind gone, until there is an ethical conviction."

Toc H and kindred movements, the Moderator suggested, might also help young people to discover the reality of God. There was confusion in the minds of young people seeking a basis for life, and it was naturally difficult for them to be attracted to the faith when there was an apparent disunity in beliefs and in the forms of worship in Scotland and England today.

If God was going to convince the world of the sovereignty of His claims, he continued, then movements like Toc H were not any longer the hand-maidens of the Church, but the significant pioneers of how people were going to discover the reality of God. Personal relationships had become the priority of our time.

There then followed an opportunity for the gathering to sing and this was much enjoyed after which Lord Mathers called on Lady Morton, a member of the Scottish Council of the United Nations Association. She spoke about *The Lost Family* and her beginning was a challenge if ever there was. Are we really whole-hearted in our support of our Family? Too many people were involved in too many organisations and only on a part-time basis, consequently no lasting good is done. Many of the members felt this talk deeply and were shaken by the facts of the Refugee problem. Here is a situation that demands attention if we are to be 'One Family' in the sight of God.

Bob Leslie led the gathering in homegoing prayers, and to the four corners of Scotland and more than one corner of England, we returned home with the challenge of God the Father of our Family, and our need to be as one in His Service.

TOC H JOURNAL

Ministry of Works

COLIN CAMPBELL

DAME MYRA HESS was looking through a Toc H JOURNAL in the train. The brief notes from far and wide prompted the great pianist to speak of a dream long cherished.

What a wonderful thing it would be if a popular daily paper concentrated on printing all the *good* news. If, instead of columns and pages devoted to the sordid and sorrowful, the human relations ending in failure in police or divorce court, kindly and constructive humanity were given feature prominence. Reading regularly of the goodness of men and women like themselves, people would surely come to expect good rather than evil—and thereby attract it.

Was it an idle dream? Could such a national daily be established? Perhaps not, although it was her belief that there would be much greater support than cynics might credit. To start from scratch might be impossibly expensive. Perhaps it needed some wealthy man or trust to buy up an existing paper and gradually change its policy.

The talk turned to some of the religious and other publications taking a more constructive view of what makes news. There are many good ones but they do not normally reach mass circulation or function primarily as news-papers. Within their limited sphere, however, the local provincial papers reach a fair section of their communities. Moreover, although some of them are probably bought for the racing results, they tend to be read at greater leisure, in more relaxed and thoughtful mood.

In such papers the sayings and doings of local people are very much the concern of the editor. Many Toc H Branches have established good relations with their local editor. How many realise the power for good they can be? What counts is not free publicity for Toc H itself but a change of emphasis from original sin to inherent good.

Colin Wintle recently asked in these pages "What makes News?" and answered, in effect, "Outward Looking". It is what men do, rather than what they are, that interests the reader although "by their fruits shall ye know them." Any

good Branch has the basis of innumerable first-class news stories—the raw material which an editor always looks for.

In one town the editor of the local weekly was approached for advance publicity for a summer fête. He, too, glanced through some JOURNALS. "I've often thought" he said, "that you ought to write me a weekly Toc H Column." It isn't every Branch or District that can produce a ready-made correspondent although, on the well-tried principle of not looking for new members but for new men to do a job, this might be one way of recruitment. A weekly column was a bit too much of a responsibility but perhaps a monthly one. . . ?

"Toc H adopts leper boy" was the 'news flash' that introduced the first one. A picture of the boy, brief details, members serving in colonies and Westfort. The recently published *No More Unclean!* and its message of hope. All helped to give point to a fund-raising fête—which, incidentally, also got a special write-up elsewhere in the paper.

For the next, the Branch rota in the District for sending flowers to All Hallows was topical. The beauty of local gardens gracing the oldest parish church in the City of London introduced Toc H on Tower Hill and the Winant Volunteers, American college boys and girls coming to work in the parish of their ancestors.

A star exhibit at the fête itself provides yet a third, for it is available by the goodwill and generosity of a famous firm. Any issue of the JOURNAL contains the bones of a dozen stories. Clothed and animated, instead of interred, they can be sources of inspiration. For example, every year sixth formers from affiliated schools participate in Schools Weeks or Boys' Camps. Many an editor would welcome an account from one of the boys himself. Remember "They do it with mirrors"? That was just an ordinary film unit job for a bed-ridden patient at home. How often does the JOURNAL itself print a picture by courtesy of the local paper?

Every Branch is charged to let men see their good works that the Father, not Toc H, may be glorified. After becoming a Builder ("I shall be proud to be associated with Toc H"). Dame Myra asked "What am I, a Brick or a Builder?". Both, of course, for the builders are themselves bricks in the hands of the Master Builder. Surely men pledged to spread the Gospel cannot afford to waste Good News?



Open Hustings

readers' letters

The Editor welcomes letters on all matters concerning Toc H and asks that they be written briefly and to the point. Effort is made to include a representative selection, and they are printed as individual view-points, not necessarily those of the Movement as a whole.

Words and Music

INCLUDED in the jobs carried on by this Branch is the regular visiting of two Homes for Aged People. It would make our work even more enjoyable if we could get hold of some of the older type of song books or community sheets such as the "News Chronicle" song-book of yesterday.

I and my fellow members would be most grateful for any sent in answer to this appeal through the columns of the JOURNAL.

I might add that the more familiar channels of obtaining these song books have been explored without success but I am sure that somewhere in Toc H we have some members who would willingly spare them. It would make a very worthwhile job even more satisfactory.

JIM RUSSELL.

37 Marriott Road,
Netherton, Dudley, Staffs.

General Members

I FEEL I must disagree entirely with Vic Hardacre and his letter in the March JOURNAL. I would like to point out that the Area General Branch is not a home for lapsed members of Branches, Area General Members are members of Toc H in good

standing who for various reasons cannot attend Branch meetings, or take an active part in the life of the Branch. Area Members are usually members who cannot attend owing to distance from the meeting place, physical limitations, responsibilities in social service, business or domestic circumstances, or some other good reason.

If a Branch is really up to the mark, no member should be missing more than two weeks without the Branch knowing where he is. It is the duty of all Branches to know the commitments of all their members and not to let them become lapsed.

Surely it is the Branch not the Area Secretary who decides the fate of the lapsed member, as only they know the circumstances of their members, and can recommend to the Area Secretary what they think the member is best suited for. In my own Branch lapsed members are dealt with very severely, thus making us all watch our step.

May I therefore suggest that any members who just want to pay a subscription to Toc H without bearing the responsibility of membership, should become Toc H Builders.

TOM R. PERKINS.

Saltash, Cornwall.

Getting Together

FOR some time now members of Bedford District have been arranging meetings and social functions with members of other Districts and Areas and so, we hope, losing the Parish Pump Complex.

In the summer(?) we are journeying to London to spend a day with members of the Medway District and on our way home we're hoping to meet the good folk of Barnet. In September we're putting on a Variety Concert in Bedford, for the Family Purse and the entire programme is being given by members of Wellingborough Branches.

During the past twelve months we have had three meetings with our two neighbouring Districts—one meeting being held on the home ground of each District.

In all these meetings we have been greatly helped by our indefatigable H.A.C. "The Figg"—to whom we raise our hats.

On a larger scale our Area Executive (Beds & Herts) organise an Annual Darts Competition, culminating in a most successful and happy Area Get-together on Finals Day. Some of us—the ebullient ones, we're told—even wonder if such a Competition could not become an Inter-Area and later a National one—from our experience this competition has great value.

We feel that if some of these ideas (if not already practised) could be extended, the family as a whole would benefit from the exchange of live views and news to say nothing of the lasting friendships that can be made by getting to know one another.

ALEX. W. H. DAVIS.

Bedford.

Freddie Domone

ON BEHALF of my three sisters and myself I should like to express our very sincere thanks to all Toc H friends for the wonderful kindness and expressions of sympathy extended to us in the recent loss of our brother, Freddie Domone.

WILLIAM DOMONE.

Southampton, Hants.

Sailor's Comment

I WAS very impressed by the 1 Toc H JOURNAL for March, both the cover and the reading matter inside. Tubby has a determined look upon his face and I do think it was a fine gesture on the B.B.C.'s part to put him on T.V. for people to see; for I am sure they would be impressed by the history of such a man, and the 'drive' of his personality.

What impressed me also was Geoff Martin's overseas notes concerning the effort made by Toc H to bring individuality back to the ex-convict. I think Durban City has given '42', and '47' a pointer. Why wait for the release of the convict? Why not bring Toc H to the prisoners? I feel sure a good job would be done by letting the prisoners understand that there are good chaps outside who are interested and anxious to get to know them, pointing the way to a fine way of living, and that goes for the women too.

There is quite a lot of meat in Colin Wintle's article "What Makes News" which is excellent and true, and these very different items all intrigue me greatly.

DOUG. HOYLE.

*M.V. Port Halifax,
25, Broadway, New York.*

TOC H JOURNAL

After 400 Years

FRANK DAVIS

This interesting account of the return to All Hallows of the four panels of an altar-piece appeared in "The Illustrated London News", whose Editor has very kindly allowed it to be reproduced here

I WRITE with some diffidence about this picture, because there seem to be certain gaps in the evidence. None the less, it is a story with a happy ending, even if not all the 'i's' are dotted or the 't's' crossed; one, moreover, which will, I trust, rejoice the hearts of all true-born Cockneys, of all who have ever heard of Toc H, of all who have spent their working lives in the neighbourhood of the Tower of London and of all who have taken note of the splendid rebuilding of the church of All Hallows Barking (now known as Berkynges Chirche, All Hallows by-the-Tower), which, after its destruction during the war, was rededicated in July, 1957, in the presence of H.M. the Queen Mother.

Link with Coventry

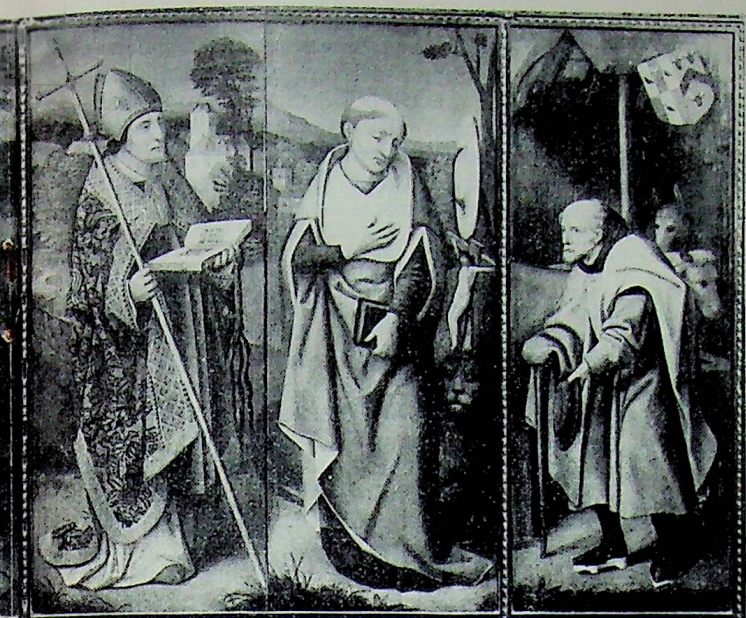
In 1488 Sir Robert Tate, whose house stood on the site of what is now No. 34 Great Tower Street, was Lord Mayor of London. His uncle had been Lord Mayor before him in 1473 and his younger brother John served in that office in 1496. Sir Robert was a Coventry man, son of Thomas Tate of that city, and he married Margery, daughter of Richard Wood, Mayor of Coventry. He was a Freeman of the Mercers' Company and Merchant of the Staple at Calais. He died in 1500. In his will he directed his executors to erect a chapel on the north side of All Hallows and to provide a 'table'—that is, a picture (or a carving, for alabaster carvings made for such altarpieces were also called 'tables') with the Martyrdom of St. Thomas. It would, of course, be of no little interest if the St. Thomas Martyrdom could be found. All we have, connected by long tradition with Sir Robert Tate and his wife, is the quadruple panel of the illustration, clearly the remains of an Adoration of the Virgin and Child. The two central panels originally formed the backs of the two wings; their present position would be occupied by a Virgin and Child and the wings would be hinged so that they could fold over the centre.

In addition to the provision of a chapel at All Hallows Sir Robert left instructions for a chantry in the church of St. Michael, Coventry. It may be that, after his death, it was decided to have a picture of the Adoration at All Hallows rather than a Martyrdom of St. Thomas; that would, in any case, be a far more normal subject for an altar-piece. Equally, an Adoration may have been painted for the chantry at Coventry and this picture may be what has been left of it. What is certain is that tradition has connected it with Sir Robert since the seventeenth century at least. In the top right-hand corner of the right-hand panel is a coat of arms—that of Sir Robert and his wife. This does not appear to be contemporary with the picture, but is a seventeenth-century addition; in any case, it is in the highest degree unlikely that a coat of arms would have been introduced into a religious painting of this character at the end of the fifteenth century in this arbitrary fashion. Nevertheless, the fact that it is there seems to show that whoever owned the painting in the seventeenth century had excellent reasons for believing it to have had a very close association with the Lord Mayor and it is reasonable to assume that this unknown owner was himself a descendant, either direct or indirect. Once we can persuade ourselves of this, it is equally reasonable to assume that the kneeling figure in the left-hand panel is a portrait of Robert Tate himself, kneeling humbly as the donor before the Virgin and Child of the central panel; further, that the picture was ordered by him, with the possibility that it was intended either for the chantry at Coventry or for All Hallows by the Tower of London.



Recently returned to A

The surly and insensate iconoclasm of the reformers in the 1540's caused endless damage at All Hallows as elsewhere, and it may well be that the central panel was destroyed at that time. Whether that was so or no, we hear nothing of the picture as we see it to-day until 1842, when it appeared in the sale of the contents of Strawberry Hill, Horace Walpole's grandiose villa at Twickenham—it would be just



to All Hallows : Four panels of an altarpiece, attributed to Jan Provost, (1462-1529).

the sort of 'Gothic curiosity' which that loquacious *dilettante* would enjoy adding to his heterogeneous collection. At that sale it was bought by the then Duke of Sutherland and, in course of time, was inherited by Millicent, Duchess of Sutherland, who later became Lady Millicent Hawes. Before the last war she gave it to the London Survey, which placed it on loan at All Hallows in 1947—exactly four centuries after its disappearance. Then last year the London Survey, anxious to raise money for one of its publications, offered it to the parish of All Hallows, which promptly—and boldly—undertook the purchase. Thanks to the generosity of Messrs. Tate and Lyle, it is now permanently in the church, a rare instance of a moving and noble work of art, even though in a mutilated condition, returning to where its donor was buried.

As to its painter, Sir Alec Martin, who has had a great deal to do with its acquisition, suggests the name of Jan

Provost (1462-1529), who was a member of the Antwerp Guild in 1493 and was working at Bruges between 1494 and 1526. The backs of the four panels are covered in black paint and there is no indication of when they were fitted together in their present order. The two figures, one on the back of each leaf, are St. Ambrose and St. Jerome. It seems likely that they were not rearranged in their present positions until their acquisition by the Duke.

Message of the Painting

I must confess that to enter the church to-day and to stand before this painting, even though it lacks its most important part, the central panel, and is in no sense of the word one of the greater Flemish masterpieces, is a salutary experience for people like myself. We are so accustomed to judge early pictures by the quality as paintings that we are liable to forget the purpose for which they were made—that is, to communicate a message to simple men who were genuinely interested in their souls and not at all in the history of art. For all to-day's well-intentioned high-mindedness, our loving care of our own inheritance from the past, our scientific classification and arrangement of trends and schools, our jargon of invented names, it is just as well to be reminded occasionally that such paintings were made for churches and not for museums—to be enjoyed rather than studied.

At one time, it was suggested that the National Art-Collections Fund might take a hand in its acquisition for All Hallows, but as the purpose of that beneficent institution is to present works of art to public galleries and museums, that idea was soon dropped; so the Vicar and his parishioners, having, so to speak, already pledged their honour in the matter, set to work pulling themselves up by their own shoe-strings. Some day, perhaps, a careful scientific examination of these panels may be undertaken; it might, or might not, reveal further information. Meanwhile, anyone who discovers the lost central panel of the "Virgin and Child" and presents it to the church will acquire merit. As it is, visitors to the Tower Hill neighbourhood now have an additional reason for entering All Hallows.

The Elder Brethren

• With proud thanksgiving . . . •

ANDERSON.—On March 16, JOHN WILLIAM ANDERSON, aged 68, a member of Worthing Branch. Elected 1.1.'50.

BESLY.—In March, the result of an accident, GEOFFREY NIGEL BESLY, aged 27, a member of Malmesbury Branch. Elected 26.2.'51.

CARTER.—On February 28, A. CUTHBERT CARTER, aged 63, a member of Oxford & Thames Valley Area General Members Branch. Elected 7.6.'37.

CARTER.—On March 1, FRANCIS CARTER, aged 89, a member of Porthleven Branch. Elected 13.12.'43.

CHAMEN.—On March 7, Captain RICHARD TEWKESBURY CHAMEN, J.P., aged 78, a founder member of Malmesbury Branch. Elected 25.5.'36.

CROOKSHANK.—On March 5, as the result of an accident, the Rev. ARTHUR CHICHESTER CROOKSHANK, a member of Haywards Heath Branch. Elected 30.6.'31.

DAVIDSON.—On April 1, the Rt. Rev. EDWIN JOHN DAVIDSON, Bishop of Gippsland, Australia, aged 59; Area Padre in Manchester and New South Wales, 1926-30; Hon. Association Padre. Elected Sydney Branch, 1926. "One who did much both in the United Kingdom and in Australia to further the ideals of Toc H."—*The Times*.

DOMONE.—On March 16, FREDERICK ARTHUR JOHN DOMONE, aged 63, a member of Whetstone & Finchley Branch. Elected 26.10.'20.

DORMOR.—On March 6, HENRY DUNCAN DORMOR, aged 81, a member of Oxford & Thames Valley Area General Members Branch. Elected 19.12.'27.

EVANS.—On February 18, HUGH ROBERT EVANS, aged 64, a member of Le Court Branch. Elected 27.1.'52.

GIBB.—On March 14, ARCHIE FRANK GIBB, aged 83, a member of St. Just Branch. Elected 11.10.'52.

GILBERT.—On February 18, NEIL WILLIAM GILBERT, aged 20, a member of Denton Branch. Elected 27.9.'55.

GODSON.—On March 14, WILLIAM GODSON, aged 86, a member of Hoylake & West Kirby Branch. Elected 5.9.'30.

HAINES.—On February 21, JOHN HAINES, aged 68, a member of Dawlish Branch. Elected 14.6.'55.

HARRIS.—On April 7, WILLIAM ALFRED HARRIS, aged 61, the Hon. Warden of Mark XX since 1940 and a member of Putney Branch. Elected 19.3.'32.

KERRY.—On March 18, ARTHUR ERNEST KERRY, aged 76, a member of Alfreton Branch. Elected 1.10.'48.

LOCK.—On January 17, THOMAS LOCK, aged 57, a member of Bramley Branch. Elected 11.2.'57.

MATSUYAMA.—On October 11, 1957, in Japan, SHINJIRO MATSUYAMA, a staunch friend of Toc H since 1933 when he prepared a booklet in Japanese "What is Toc H?"

MAVIN.—On February 20, GEORGE THOMAS MAVIN, aged 65, a founder member of Newbiggin Branch. Elected 13.3.'47.

MORGAN.—On March 12, HAROLD EGBERT MORGAN, aged 51, a former member of Stowmarket Branch. Elected 22.9.'49.

PARSONS.—On March 9, SAMUEL PARSONS, aged 61, a member of Pontypool Branch. Elected 7.11.'38.

SPALDING.—On March 3, JAMES DENYS SPALDING, aged 67, a member of Wanstead Branch. Elected 14.3.'51.

VINK.—On January 11, HAROLD VINK, aged 73, a member of Wembley Branch. Elected 5.12.'30.

WRIGHT.—On March 17, GEORGE, ALFRED WRIGHT, aged 84, a founder member of St. Budeaux Branch. Elected 26.7.'51.

In Memoriam

Frederick Arthur John Domone

The text of an address given by Tubby at the Memorial

Service held at All Hallows on Friday, March 28

*Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his saints.*

Psalm cxvi, v. 15.

YOU KNOW the Bible version of the Psalms and the translation in our Psalter differ. The Prayer book version is of course best known to that fine school of people "Prayer Book Christians". The Church of England is a shy old lady, but she has been the Mother of John Bull and of a race the world will not forget. While very seldom handsome or well featured, John Bull has got a shining honest face. The bluntness of his speech and of his ways has for at least four hundred years been known more widely than his critics would admit. He is a straightforward fellow on the whole. God-fearing in his attitude of mind; in times of stress he proves his pluck and patience. He knows and practices a true team spirit.

Tonight this ancient, and yet modern, Church has the deep privilege of taking home and clasping to its bosom a dear friend, of whom we can at least most truly say that none of those who knew, or even met, Freddie Domone, even for half-an-hour, is likely to forget him while their life lasts. Speaking as mortals to his ashes here, we come to say Good Morrow, not Good Bye. Freddie avoided speech-making by habit. He knew too well the worth of human souls to seek to net them like so many shrimps. His work was line and rod, first to last. The fish he landed underwent a change; they did not gasp their life out on the bank. His merry humour and abiding friendship, which never failed in any case I know, gave him strong teams of fellow-fishermen. Thus we are gathered at the Anglers' Rest.

Let us hark back to the old Psalmist's words. All faithful priests, and all who are their friends, versed in the simple Church

of England ways, must surely recognise the deep connection which links these words with the most sacred Cup. I am no learned priest, but this I know—that every friend of Freddie's in all Churches will be enriched, if they will meditate upon the deep connection of my text with the receiving of the Sacrament—the Sacrament Freddie so deeply loved.

Before the Celebrant himself receives the Bread of Life—as Christ has named the gift—the priest, as he bends low before the Altar, murmurs the words of the Centurion: "Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldest come under my roof, but speak the word only and Thy servant shall be healed." Though they were pagan lips in the first case which stumbled through this humblest of confessions, Our Lord's dear face lit up with joy and praise. No single sentence that Christ heard on earth from a man's heart delighted Him so much. But what then follows? For Our Lord most plainly insisted that the Cup should be received, and the old Church of England thus obeys; and the Free Churches follow the same Use. What does the priest, or minister, then say to his own soul, as he then lifts the Cup in order to partake thereof himself? If he is wise he turns to the same source as that to which Our Lord Himself will turn once more upon Good Friday, this day week; he finds instinctive refuge in the Psalms. Thus priest and people join in awstruck tones in whispering to their souls, as they discern the mirrored Christ within the Sacred Cup. "What reward shall I give unto the Lord for all His benefits? I will receive the Cup of Salvation and call upon the name of the Lord".



Freddie Domone

Can you complete these precious words tonight? Strangely befitting is the following sentence, and yet it pierces to the very heart. These are the words which we tonight repeat: "Right dear in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints".

Speak these tonight. Speak these through Holy Week. Speak them on Easter Day. Abide in them. Let them be Freddie's message in your heart, as if they were the light we loved to see shining and dancing in his cheerful eyes.

But, you may ask, and reasonably ask, why is the death of saints right dear to God? Why need we lose them here so suddenly? Why are they taken from our human sight almost before

we know that they are gone? Why does God take our Great-hearts to Himself? Why cannot we still have Freddie in our midst? Why must Toc H and Leprosy Relief be thus deprived of his true championship? These are all questions we are bound to ask, and no reply to them can be vouchsafed beyond three simple words—that "God knows best".

Freddie had come from far to Jesus Christ. When he was led by seeming accident to find his way into old Mark II house he was as embittered as a man could be. He had had a hideous war and an ugly peace. He earned his living in a soulless job. But "Wim" and Harry Willink and their team took hold of him in a constraining friendship, and Prideaux trusted him through thick and thin. This was a new experience indeed. Freddie reacted to this inspiration, and found the source of fellowship in Christ. Then Gilbert Williams came into his life; and all the younger lads like Ronnie Myatt made common cause with him in these events and grew to be his brothers in the spirit.

He grew to love All Hallows as his home. No man more faithful, and no friend more true. Through all the storm and stress he never failed to make Communion with a thankful heart. Here, therefore, is tonight his journey's end. P.B.C.

★ ★ ★

I first met Freddie Domone in 1942 at St Stephen's Services' Club, but he had been well known in Toc H for more than twenty years before that when he had been actively connected with Boys' Camping activities on the Toc H Sports Ground at New Barnet and with the stalwart band of helpers at the Oxford & Bermondsey Boys Club since the early '20's. The horsetrough still stands where he was 'initiated' by the 'natives' on his first sortie into Bermondsey.

He became Secretary of Mark II and later of Mark VII, and subsequently holding various offices in Barnet and Whetstone Branches as well as the District and North London Area.

In 1941 Freddie was Warden of St Stephen's Services' Club in the shadow of Big Ben. To the thousands of British and Allied Servicemen who knew him as 'The Boss' he was the quiet, efficient Warden of a first-class Club, but hundreds came seeking more and found the real Toc H spirit in a warmth of friendship, difficult to explain but genuine and lasting in its effect.

With the closing of St Stephen's after the war Freddie turned to B.E.L.R.A., and worked with enthusiasm as their London and Home Counties Regional Organising Secretary. In this capacity he made a wide circle of friends spread throughout South-East England. If ever any man will be missed, he will.

The ashes have been received into the Chapel of Rest at the Guild Church and a fund has been opened to place a Memorial Pew bearing Freddie's name in All Hallows Church. A.S.B.

Hugh Robert Evans

Compared with most of the other residents at Le Court Home, one of the Cheshire Foundation Homes, Hugh was not severely disabled and played a leading part in all the activities of the Home. He was a keen supporter of the Alton Operatic Society, and in the early days of Le Court had been prominent in amateur theatricals. An honorary member of the Alton Cage Bird Society, he cared for the budgerigars which they had kindly presented to us. In his last two years he had performed the duties of Sacristan of St. Giles Chapel.

O.S.S.



ALL HALLOWS BY-THE-TOWER

Guild Church of Toc H

List of Services

SUNDAYS:

8.15 a.m.	LITANY
8.30 a.m.	HOLY COMMUNION
11.00 a.m.	SUNG EUCHARIST AND SERMON
5.30 p.m.	SUNG EVENSONG AND SERMON

WEEKDAYS:

HOLY COMMUNION—Daily at 8 a.m. and on Wednesdays also at 7.15 a.m. and 12.35 noon.

EVENSONG—Mondays to Fridays at 5.35 p.m.

MIDDAY ADDRESS—Tuesdays at 1.5 p.m.

ORGAN RECITALS—by Mr. Gordon Phillips, F.R.C.O., A.R.C.M., Organist and Director of Music.

Thursdays 12.15 – 1 p.m.

1.15 – 2 p.m.

COMPLINE—Wednesdays 9 p.m.

The Church is open daily from 7.45 a.m. until 6 p.m. in the Winter and from 7.45 a.m. until 8.30 p.m. in the Summer.

Let's make a Panto

KEN WILLIS

TELEVISION may be held responsible for the decline in cinema attendance figures, but Toc H Mildenhall Branch are happy to report that the attendance figures for their annual pantomime increase with each production. Last year it was estimated that 1,300 people saw our interpretation of "Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp" and paid £200 to do so. This year we estimate 1,700 people contributed £253 to see "Little Red Riding Hood".

Is there any secret in this success? We think not. It only needs someone with a bit of imagination to write a script, and one needn't be a poet laureate to do so in rhymed couplets. Mix in plenty of local names and a bit of good-natured leg-pulling at the expense of the local council and the like, and you have a script.

Enlisting non-members

What of the cast? We have an all-male cast, which is always good for a laugh in any company, and it is surprising what talent you can find in your Branch once you persuade the chaps to have a go. If you haven't enough talent in your Branch, call on the Branch next door. We receive some admirable assistance from Beck Row Branch in this way. You should be able to rustle up four 'chorus girls' and seven or eight speaking parts in this way. Failing this, why not co-opt some talented non-members, you may increase your membership by so doing, so long as you don't let them think that Toc H is a society for the promotion of pantomime. It is always a good thing anyway to enlist non-members to your aid in any job you tackle.

The next problem is costume. This is where the ladies come in. If you are fortunate enough, as we are, to have a Jobbie whose wife and sister-in-law thrive on producing plays and making costumes out of old curtains, chair covers, bedspreads and the like, you are made. Members' wives, mothers, sweethearts and sisters, too, can usually be persuaded to lend a hand in cutting things out and sewing them.

At Mildenhall we started in a very modest way, putting our first show on seven years ago, for two nights. Now we



Studio Five, Brandon

The cast of Mildenhall Branch's pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood"

have grown to eight performances, four in December and four nights in January.

Our December performances produced £130 gross receipts, £90 profit, of which one-third was given to the Beck Row Branch Old Folks Account in recognition of that Branch's contribution to the pantomime. Mildenhall added their £60 to £30 already in their Old Folks Account, gave a Christmas Party and distributed over £50 worth of grocery parcels to more than a hundred over-seventies.

The January performance produced £120 gross receipts of which £100 was profit, this being divided £30 to Beck Row Branch and £70 to Mildenhall Branch, practically all going to the Family Purse as contributions from the two Branches.

You will see from the figures that one of the beauties of a stage performance is that once initial expenses have been met, by the December performances, the profit on subsequent performances is very high.

Do you feel like having a shot at it? You will find that working together with another Branch and some non-members produces a very real fellowship between all concerned. The Family Spirit develops quite naturally in such circumstances. In our case, 1,700 people have gone away quite satisfied that they have had their money's worth, and that their money will be used in a very worth while cause. What more could a Branch require?

Far Cry

overseas notes

GEOFF MARTIN



NEWS FROM KAMPALA

IN UGANDA we now have a young, keen African who has been a member of Toc H for some time and who is working full time as a Field Assistant. I don't think he would mind my sharing a recent letter with other members of Toc H who follow our progress in Uganda with understanding and real interest. As already mentioned in the JOURNAL, his name is Pineate Mulumba-Musoke. They call him "Pi", which seems a good idea. Writing on March 24 he says:

"I am enjoying this wonderful job of Toc H, though I have not controlled it well. Most of the groups have resumed to meet regularly with a good number of attendances every meeting. Also a new group is started at Ntinda African Estate, a distance of five miles from Kampala. This group is within the Estate (where I) am living and have done some jobs on the Estate. Among the jobs done are: Started a Boys' club and took the whole leadership of it; organised evening classes for adults who cannot write nor read; visiting old and destitute people in the village nearby, and so on. This group is planning to give more Service to people who really need their help. One member in this group has been initiated on the 19th instant. He is a very active member and has been a probationer for a year and over. Formerly he was a member of Naguru group before he moved to Ntinda Estate. I hope his full membership will be of great value to this new group. He is Mr. Blasio T. Kiyaga, Muganda by tribe."

The Kampala Branch and neighbouring units are doing a great deal to help the poor of Uganda by their voluntary service, particularly through youth club work. There seems to be a very real slum problem in Kampala, and *Townsmen in the Making* (Southall & Gutkind) is said to be illuminating on the subject. A settlement has been started, called the Nakivubo Settlement, with three Toc H members on the Management Committee. They have started a primary school (190 children), a nursery school (90 children), a boys' club (60 boys), a girls' club (30 girls), adult evening classes (over

100 attending), a canteen, and a women's club (40 members). "We have a hand-to-mouth existence raising what funds we can," writes Charles Potts of Uganda to Cecil Wakely of Worthing!

MORE FROM GIBRALTAR

People sometimes try to describe exactly what sort of things happen in Gibraltar, where a small Branch continues to function in spite of inevitable gaps caused by transfers, and where a Toc H Services Club operates at the South Bastion. It is this last enterprise, the Club, which strains the descriptive powers of its visitors.

Jock Brown, the Warden, has written a long letter to Tubby, and possibly a succession of extracts, in his own style, will tell their own story.

"... In the Branch we have ten Rover Scouts who visit the Colonial and Military Hospital three times a week and on Monday nights visit the Mental Hospital. They take a recording machine and gramophone, records, and a happy two hours are spent with the patients, as a Branch we supply every week, books from London for the local blind (over ninety young and old folk) some are now for the first time taking up some kind of interest, basket making, writing, typing and leather work. . . .

Two weeks ago three young Canadian lads stayed with me, they had spent twenty-nine months in the Arctic regions. These lads gave the Branch some wonderful stories about the Eskimos. Last week I had a young American lad, he was 7ft. 2in. in height, wore an Aussie hat, which gave him another 3 or 4 inches, you can picture me standing beside him.

Two weeks ago some members of the Canadian Broadcast Company were here, and made a recording of our work and place, as a story had been sent to them a month before about the fifty stranded Canadian school lasses from Switzerland who were fixed up in our camp for the night. . . .

We have always an open door, beds, food, quiet room, small Chapel, for travellers and all God's children, who come our way."

SINGAPORE GUEST-NIGHT

A number of photographs have just arrived from Bob Simmons, at Talbot House Singapore. One of them is shown on the next page. They were taken at the Guest-night on March 31 when Barkis, on his way home from Hong Kong, was the guest speaker. Having the house there makes a world of difference, for your guests can then sit down with

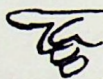
you for a meal beforehand, and makes hospitality easier. There were over forty people present, including members of the Women's group and the new Naval Base (Joint) group.



Singapore Guest-night: (l. to r.) Mrs. Winifred Metherell, Major W. L. Spence, Mr. H. E. Barnett, Mrs. C. R. Barnett, Mrs. Spence, Barclay Baron, Deaconess Molly Rudd, and Pat Leong.

The next day was a busy one for Barkis,—to the Naval Base to meet some of the members there; then to Johore Bahru to see Padre Jack Thistle at the Barracks; back to the Kranji War Memorial where he sought Padre Gerry Chambers' grave. Then appointments with the Church and the Army and finally St. Andrew's Mission Hospital for Children, where a friend of Toc H, Janet Lim, introduced him to her charges before returning to the ship and goodbye. That's what happens if you have a day's holiday in Singapore.

British Transport Film Catalogue



now available

listing over 100 films on travel and transport subjects

Write for your copy *now* to the Films Officer

British Transport Commission • 25 Savile Row London W1

Old Folks' Welfare

FRED VEEVERS

ALL HIS LIFE old Simpson had been an angry man. Talk about not suffering fools gladly—he didn't suffer anybody. He went through life being angry at things, and age didn't tame him. Alongst the funny mixture that went to make up old Simpson was a love of flowers, of poetry, of books, and a rather caustic sense of humour. He was a "character". Often one could imagine that behind his irascibility there lurked a wicked twinkle, and that he enjoyed being the man he was. Friends, neighbours and acquaintances, though often rather shattered at his sayings and doings, instead of being hurt, would relate his latest effort to their friends with great enjoyment.

Old Simpson lived all alone. As he grew older and more feeble, his temper grew sharper but his mind remained clear. He became more and more dependent on the services of kindly neighbours who would pop in and do his household chores. Things had to be done with delicate care, for the old chap became as cantankerous as an aged lion with toothache. For instance, if the neighbour taking his dinner promised it for 12.30 and arrived at 12.35—well, there was no end of a flare-up!

All this brings me to—we'll call her Mrs. Jones.

Indeed, it was Mrs. Jones who told me this story. For she was one of the people who perhaps did more for the old man than anyone. By now he had become very feeble indeed and needed a great deal of attention.

One morning Mrs. Jones went across to old Simpson's house earlier than usual. She quietly let herself in with her key and set about her usual round of odd jobs. After a while she thought she would see if the old chap was still asleep, and went softly up the stairs and very very gently opened the bedroom door. Everything was still—unnaturally still. Mrs. Jones opened the door a little wider and looked into the room. The curtains were drawn and the light not good, but she could see the bed-clothes thrown back in confusion and no old man. Rather alarmed now, she pushed the door wide open and called: "Hello! Mr. Simpson! *Mr. Simpson! Hello!*"

Not a sound. A chair over-turned, the coal scuttle upset, and no old Simpson. Thoroughly scared now, she went into the room and round to the far side of the bed—albeit with some caution. There, she saw protruding from under the bed the bare feet and pyjama-ed legs of old Simpson. Again she called "Mr. Simpson!" but without avail. Bravely but reluctantly she bent, took hold of the ankles, then dropped them quickly. They were ice-cold. Plucking up courage, again she gripped old Simpson's ankles and tried to pull him from under the bed. It was beyond her strength.

Convinced now that the old man had died, she put on hat and coat and hurried off to the doctor. It was still quite early and the doctor, who was at breakfast, listened patiently to Mrs. Jones' breathless and somewhat excited story. "Well," he said, "Been expecting something like this. I've a waiting room full of coughs and sniffles. The old chap can't take any harm now. You go back. Don't worry. As soon as you can get some help, get him out. I'll be round as soon as I can."

Thus spake the doctor. Slowly Mrs. Jones wended her way back to old Simpson's place. First she went up to the bedroom—but the old man's feet were still where she had left them. No immediate help being available, she went downstairs, took off her hat and coat, and for the next hour or so busied herself with odd jobs. She was dusting rather vigorously when suddenly she stopped, listened, then dropping the duster rushed out of the back door. Help was at hand. The noise she heard was the cheerful clanging of the dust-bin men.

There are of course, different sorts of dustmen. Ours are a cheerful lot. They sing and whistle snatches of popular songs amid the clashing and banging of bins and lids. So, what with the bashing and clanging and whistling and singing, it was some time before Mrs. Jones really got her story over. "Would they come up and help to get old Simpson from under the bed?" The expression on the faces of the dustmen was really something—kindness, sympathy, reluctance, embarrassment—were all there at the same time. What could they do but agree.

Led by Mrs. Jones, the solemn little procession clumped down the garden path, through the kitchen, through the living room, up the stairs into the bedroom, and with some difficulty, for that small room was already over-full of furniture.

Admittedly Mrs. Jones did not take up much room, but the dustmen looked enormous.

With much puffing and grunting and careful moving of furniture, the old man was extricated as reverently as possible. They laid him neatly on the bed, hands folded nicely on his chest. Mrs. Jones stood at the side of the bed, the dustmen, caps in hand, stood in a row at the foot, when suddenly the old chap opened his eyes. In a voice surprisingly strong and full of bad temper, he said: 'What the devil are yo' lot doin' in my bedroom?' and then demanded breakfast. The startled dustmen beat a hasty retreat while the flustered Mrs. Jones tried to pacify old Simpson.

When the doctor called, prepared to make out a certificate, he found the body having breakfast.

The old man strongly denied having been under the bed, or even out of bed. These, he declared, looking at Mrs. Jones pointedly, were malicious stories by ungrateful folks to whom he had shown nothing but kindness. And believe me, a lot more besides! He did admit, somewhat grudgingly, to the doctor, that he seemed to have had a very disturbed night.



The Outstanding Cigarette of the Day



TOBACCO AT ITS BEST

WELL MADE • WELL PACKED

From All Parts



direct from areas

SOUTHERN—A tour of the Channel Islands and Weymouth by Tubby at the end of February was notable for his insistence on seeing sixth formers and Scouts wherever possible. At **Weymouth** he was asked to present a Rushlight to the new group at **Charminster**. The founder is Cliff Whalley, himself a product of the **Grouville**, Jersey Branch. John Goss, the Area Chairman, has presented a Rushlight to **Milton**, Southsea, group. They are now in full swing, meeting weekly with some seventeen men completely fresh to Toc H. A beach-hut for disabled ex-Service men at **Bournemouth** has been rented. A local member, having sold the idea to one or two councillors, persuaded them to tap charitable funds for the rental. Now he's busy organising a daily car service to and fro for those unable to make the trip to the beach by themselves.

BOB KNIGHT.

YORKSHIRE—York have successfully completed one film and are now actively 'shooting' another called "Any Task for Others". Their newly-formed film unit has already given nineteen shows. **South Milford** were recently shown round the old church at Monk Fryston and afterwards attended evensong. **Otley** recently entertained 135 old people of the town to a tea followed by a concert. **Wensleydale** District have again entered a team for the Nevett Cricket Cup this year. Preparations for our Festival on May 17 are well in hand.

JOHN MADDOCK.

NORTHERN—**Darlington** Branch, per Peter Cubitt, 35 Dale Road, Darlington, have a Special Effort for the Family Purse all the year round in the sale of Used Razor Blades, three hole variety only and rustless. Supplies urgently required, send to Peter. Other Areas are included in this urgent request. **Teeside** District held their Annual Training Weekend at Saltburn-by-Sea. Leaders taking part were Bob Purdy, giving a picture of 'Toc H Today', Sandy Parker of Hutton Rudby Branch on 'Extension' and Albert Boone, a new member of North Ormesby Branch on 'What Toc H means to me' and the last session was a Brains Trust with added comments from the audience. An Area Joint Training Day was held in **Durham**, about 250 members attended. The theme 'Extension', led by Padre Herbert Leggate, culminated in a Brains Trust. Whilst in the North both Bob and Herbert were present at other gatherings. **Redcar** Branch whose headquarters is a hut adjacent to the railway station and the sea are prepared to make their room available for any Unit in the Area who wish to bring a party to Redcar for the day, either children or Old Folk and themselves, but it is also necessary to let the Branch Secretary, Norman Hodgson, 2 Warrenby Road, Redcar, know in good time. **West Pelton** Branch have been digging gardens for the old folk and giving an extra touch of warmth in the distribution of logs and wood.

LANCE LIMBRICK.



The Bedfordshire Times
Youth Club versus Toc H at Sandy, Beds., when members of St. Swithun's Y.C. competed with the local Branch in a general knowledge quiz.

BEDS. & HERTS.—Bishop's Stortford now meet in the room provided for the Elsie Barratt Club for the Blind, which they helped to found. Goff's Oak have been door-knocking and have undertaken a new sphere of service in a hospital. The new group in the Stopsley suburb of Luton has now been recognised and is flourishing. St. Albans District have been invited by the Hospital Management Committee to befriend blind mental patients in Napsbury Hospital and an experimental start is being made. Dunstable are preparing for extension work in Leighton Buzzard (contact John Young, Blackpot Farm, Plantation Road, Leighton Buzzard). Berkhamsted are holding one of their meetings every month at the Toc H Services Club at Wendover where an attempt is being made to revive the local Branch.

FRANK R. FIGG.

OXFORD & THAMES VALLEY—Henley (Joint) Branch have assisted Rotary in sponsoring a new International Club, which meets in the Branch Room. Maidenhead Branch won their return football match against the Huntercombe (Borstal) Boys 7—0. Maidenhead included seven Amateur League players and a Scottish International. The Branch also helped the Borstal After-Care Association to get a homeless boy placed in a new job and found him digs. Witney Branch are helping in a local Road Safety Scheme, also arranged a Film Show in a local Children's Home, and were instrumental in forming a Scout Troop. The new secretary of the Windsor group is John Faulds, B 13, Castle Farm, Dedworth, Nr. Windsor. Banbury have recently acquired a new portable organ for use at their weekly Sunday afternoon Service, conducted by Branch members in the wards of the Warwick Road Hospital. A member of Beaconsfield has recently been elected to the Main Committee of the Spastic Home for young adults, where the Branch holds fortnightly meetings. The Area Treasurer is planning a series of visits to District Team meetings, and a Jobmasters Conference is being planned for later in the year.

JOHN WILSON.

MANCHESTER—Barnoldswick have now received their Lamp. An old member of Toc H who had generously acted as donor has now decided to come back into active membership. The lighting of the Lamp for the first time was a very happy occasion with a strong family spirit much in evidence. **Blackburn** group are congratulated on being recognised as a Branch. International Help for Children sponsored in **Manchester** by Toc H, have plans made to bring a party of refugee children to stay for a period in Manchester homes. The news that **Mark IV** is to be repaired and renovated has given great satisfaction in the Area. We are quite sure that this old house so intimately associated with the beginning of Toc H in these parts has many years of useful activity before it.

JACK SHAW.

KENT—The new **Whitfield & Guston** group near Dover continue to make good progress. They hope to meet a real need shortly in launching a youth club in conjunction with other local folk. Two old-established Branches have recently celebrated their birthdays, **Rainham** their thirty-second and **Sevenoaks** their thirtieth. **Bob Knight**, Southern Area Padre, visited Kent during March and spent evenings with members in South East Kent, at **Ashford**, at **Hildenborough** and **Westerham**. If you are free on a Friday and happen to be in **Hythe** do look in at Church House and spend an enjoyable time with members of our group there. Their room on the top floor is now cosily furnished and the carpet is bound to catch your eye! **Maidstone** Joint District Team (something quite new in Kent) is now well established and meets regularly. They have hopes of extension at **Larkfield** in due time.

CYRIL CATTELL.

E. LONDON—Saturday, October 18, is the date fixed for the Eastern London Area Festival at Chelmsford. Arrangements will include a Service in the Cathedral at 3.30 p.m., tea in the Shire Hall at 4.45 p.m. and 5.15 p.m. and a programme of Music, Song and Speech from 6 to 8 p.m. Invite your family and your friends. The cost will be not more than 4s. for adults, 2s. 6d. for children under fourteen years. Programmes with full details of the Festival will be sent, for sale or return, to all Men's and Women's Branches in the Area in a few weeks' time. Meanwhile, it will *help* very much if every Branch will send to the Area Office by May 15 a rough indication of the numbers probably coming.

JIM GREEN.

WESTERN—**St. George** Branch recently held a District Rally when the complete programme consisted of variety items given by the Branch as a whole and by individual members. This, together with the excellent opportunity afforded to all members of the District to meet together, made the evening a memorable one. **Portishead** Branch Rededication this year will be combined with a Pilgrimage to the Guild Church of All Hallows on Saturday, June 28. Plans have also been made for some London Branches to join them on this occasion. Here is an extract from a recent report of the Commissioners of Prisons. In dealing with the work of the pre-release Training Scheme at H.M. Prison, Horfield, Bristol . . . "The Commissioners acknowledge gratefully the help and especially the hospitality given by such groups as Toc H and the Society of Friends in Bristol." **Swindon's** Toc H Hospital Broadcasts' scheme has now given the 300th broadcast running report on the town's football matches.

FRED BROOKER.



Toc H (Manchester) Rugby Football Club was formed during the season 1924/25 by hostellers living in Mark IV, Victoria Park. The first match was played against the Manchester Y.M.C.A. The following week the same men played a hockey match, but afterwards decided to keep to rugger in the future. Before the war the club was fielding three teams each week and out of a strength of fifty-nine no less than fifty-six saw service with the armed forces. Play was resumed in September, 1945, and to-day four teams are being fielded every week. The Club is most anxious to encourage youths and schoolboys to take up the game. As proof of this over two-thirds of the present playing strength first handled the oval ball when playing for the Club. The Hon. Secretary is Wilfrid Lord, "Woodgarth", The Hough, Alderley Edge.

SUSSEX—At the A.G.M. of the North Sussex District a unanimous vote of thanks was given to Fred Jackson of **Crawley**, the retiring Chairman particularly for the fact that during the past year he had visited all Branches in the District. Equally unanimous was his re-election for another year. That ought to be a lesson to him! At the twenty-seventh birthday of the local Blind Club, sponsored by **Brighton**, more than a hundred blind people attended. An interesting and at times lively discussion took place at **Shoreham-by-Sea** on the importance of using corporate jobs of service as a means to enlisting the active support of local people outside Toc H.

CYRIL CATTELL.

LINCOLNSHIRE—**Grimsby** celebrated their thirtieth Birthday in March when Colin Stevenson was the Guest Speaker. Alec Churcher made a short visit to the Area during the latter part of March, visiting **Horncastle**, **Alford** and **Caistor** Grammar Schools, all of which are affiliated, he also spoke to a representative gathering of the West Wolds District at **Caistor**. **Laceby** celebrated their third birthday in April. **West Wolds** District are arranging for tape recordings to be made by relatives of the inmates of **Osgodby Hospital**, later to be played back to the patients.

CLEM. CRUMMY.

N. LONDON—More than a hundred blind people were the guests of **Whetstone & Finchley** at their annual party and everyone was brought to the hall and taken home again in members' cars. The guests enjoyed a varied and entertaining programme. As in past years, the money to finance the party came from a collection taken at Finchley Football ground. So good was the result that this year the Branch was able to give a party for local old-age pensioners as well. Many happy returns to **Barnet** who celebrated their first birthday with a service of rededication and a programme of lively entertainment with Padre Herbert Leggate as the Guest Speaker. The annual **Tally-Ho** District Cricket Match is being held at Livingstone School, New Barnet, on Monday, June 23rd. All members will be welcome. In case of rain there will be a Family Night in the School.

MAYNE ELSON.

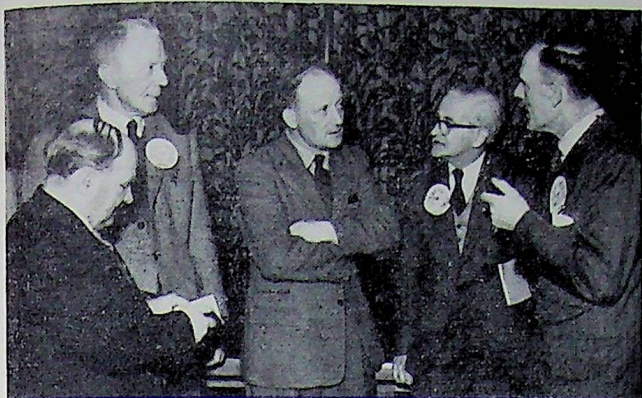


Newark Advertiser

At Bingham Branch's Twenty-first Birthday celebrations: 'Light' being taken by Neville Jacques, a founder member.

NOTTS. & DERBY.—The Area Gathering at **Bingham** to celebrate the Branch's Twenty-first Birthday made its mark in the Area all right. The Great Snow during the week did not help the Branch's nervous system, but even with a false weather forecast which cut numbers down, about 250 came from all parts of the Area. Bishop Gelsthorpe preached at the Service held in the new Secondary Modern School. Following a play, "Hewers of Coal", put on by the Branch, and a procession of Lamps and Banners, Herbert Leggate held us all with a forthright talk. It was a happy occasion and one which will stay long in the memory. **Bakewell** continue their help to the Pestalozzi Children's Village Trust at Battle in Sussex, to whom they sent part of the proceeds of a jumble sale. Last year they ran a children's painting exhibition in aid of the Trust. **Kirkby** Branch has drawn to itself a number of youngsters by providing facilities for them to form a skiffle group. At their Rededication Service on April 1, **Mansfield Woodhouse** tried the experiment of handing out membership cards as an act of renewal of personal membership.

LES WHEATLEY.



Evesham Journal

Broadway (Wores.) members at their Annual Guest Night with Bob Purdy, Area Secretary and Iain Fraser of Lakeland who was the guest speaker.

WEST MIDLANDS—Wolverhampton & District Branches are organising a Garden Party to be held at Codsall on June 14, 2.45 p.m. to 6 p.m. The proceeds are for the Family Purse. Lye recently visited a Childrens Society Home and showed them a film. This included picnics on which the children had been, their November bonfire, a romp on Clent Hills and the Royal visit to Stourbridge. Perry Barr are now visiting Old Folks homes to play records of popular and classical music. Worcester are also concerned with the care of old folk. Their job incorporates repairing electrical apparatus, filling up forms (paper—not human!), providing them with opportunity to get cheap chiropody treatment. Kidderminster are holding a Flag Day in September in aid of Toc H Funds. Nash Court, a wonderful week-end led by Iain Fraser, has been thoroughly enjoyed by all who went. Wulfrun District are spreading our fellowship in no uncertain fashion, and the starting of four new groups is very promising.

NOEL CARTWRIGHT.

SCOTLAND—The "One Family" Gathering in Edinburgh was well attended and it was good to have so many members of Toc H from over the Border. The new groups in Scotland were also well represented. Edinburgh men and women are preparing for another effort, this time a Garden Fete, for the Family Purse. Visitors to this city please note that it takes place in June. Dundee Branch are also in the mood for Garden Fetes, they too are holding one in June and it is hoped that this ambitious effort will bring in some money and many friends for Toc H. The Scottish Clans will gather on May 17-18 at Carronvale, Larbert, for the meeting of the Scottish Council. The Speaker will be Oliver Wilkinson, and we are looking forward to his visit. The Iona Weeks are filling up, there are still some vacancies for the week September 6-13.

JOHNNIE MACMILLAN.

S. & S.E. LONDON—Old Coulsdon have helped to raise money towards the Building Funds of two new churches being erected to serve the growing community, and **Pickhurst Green** have presented Beckenham Council with a roadside seat commemorating their founder members. Stephen Cox, now emigrated to Australia, was presented with a framed photograph of **Green Street Green** village, as it looked when he was a boy, by fellow members of the Branch. Congratulations to **Longfield**, recently recognised as a Branch.

SAM EVANS.



Some of the West Country members taking part in the Training Day at Plymouth, with Gilbert Francis and the Administrator, John Callf, seated in the centre.

SOUTH WESTERN—A recent Training Day in Plymouth was followed by Training Evenings in Taunton and Exeter, all three events being led by John Callf. This experience of small groups of Branch leaders really getting down to the task of discussing the fundamentals of Toc H proved both enjoyable and stimulating, and it is hoped that as a result, this type of meeting will become much more widely used throughout the Area. Now that the holiday season approaches the group at **St. Marys (Isles of Scilly)** give a special invitation to any Toc H members holidaying in the Islands to pay them a visit. This group is very isolated from the rest of the Family on the mainland, and visitors will be more than welcome.

GILBERT FRANCIS.

W. LONDON—Two **Greenford** members have been taking courses in Youth Leadership. Every member of **South Ruislip** Branch has adopted one of the children at a local Children's Home and has thereby become a sort of Honorary Uncle. The result may well be to give orphan kiddies the only experience of home life which they have ever had.

MAYNE ELSON.

Journal Smalls Small advertisements must be received (with remittance) by the first day of month preceding publication. The charge is 6d. a word (minimum 6s.). Editorial Office: Toc H, 47 Francis Street, London, S.W.1

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

BRUGES. Toc H parties and individual visitors to this lovely city are offered good accommodation and a warm welcome at **HOTEL JACOBS**. Early booking advised. Write: M. Lietart, Hotel Jacobs, 1 Baliestraat, Bruges, Belgium.

CORNWALL. Thorn Guest House, Port Isaac. Situated amidst beautiful country and coastal scenery, three minutes walk from sea. Quiet and secluded. Hot and cold water all bedrooms. Beds have interior sprung mattresses. Excellent catering, farm produce. Separate tables. Terms 6-7½ gns. per week. Write or telephone Port Isaac 318.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE. Bed and Breakfast. High Tea (optional) also Apartments. A "Toc H" welcome with Special Reduced Terms. Car room. Write early. Stickland, "Rosemary", 27 Oakford Avenue.

VENTNOR. Isle/Wight, overlooking sea. Bed & Breakfast. Evening dinner. St. Ives, Madeira Road.

HOLIDAYS IN CORNWALL— St. Austell ideal centre for Cornish Riviera—lovely beaches, scenery, comfortable accommodation at "Roseheart", 31 Margaret Avenue, St. Austell.

SHANKLIN. I.o.W. Corner Cottage Guest House. Sea two minutes. H. & C. all bedrooms. Moderate charges. Mr. & Mrs. J. Cole, 21 Avenue Road, Shanklin.

VISITORS TO POPERINGE are made very welcome at Tea Room Reniere, 12 Market Place. Tea, Ices, Espresso Coffee, Milk-shakes, and Pastries.

USERS of Stationery and all kinds of Office Supplies can save money by buying through a co-operative effort sponsored by the National Council of Social Service. Enquiries welcomed. Write for current price list to:—Social Service Supplies Ltd., 142 Drummond Street, London, N.W.1. Telephone EUston 7808-9.

STAMPS. Gifts of Foreign Stamps and Great Britain (4d. values and over) are always welcomed by Toc H Stamp Appeal. Please send direct to: C. H. Wake, 142 St. Margaret's Road, Edgware, Middx.

TOC H BADGE PLATES for use on doors and above notice boards. Rectangular plate 3½" x 4" black on amber or cream ground. 4s. 0d. each. Direct from Toc H Publications Dept.

WARDEN MANOR SILVER JUBILEE Re-union Saturday, October 25 for old and young friends includes Service at All Hallows. Tea at Holborn Hall. Details from: Mr. J. Keeler, 166 Wilmoat Road, Dartford, Kent.

DO rising prices cause misgiving? Then smoke "TOM LONG" and life's worth living.

A Scottish Coxswain



MEN AT WORK

The work of the Life-boat crew is dangerous. They do it willingly. But without your help they cannot continue to rescue 600 lives a year at sea. Funds are urgently needed: send your contribution, however small, to:—

**ROYAL NATIONAL
LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION**
42, GROSVENOR GARDENS, LONDON, S.W.1

Treasurer:

His Grace The Duke of Northumberland

Secretary:

Col. A. D. Burnett Brown, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., N.A.



A NEW TOC H TIE

This new design, with miniature gold Lamps on a navy blue ground, is now available to Toc H members; it is additional to the club stripe pattern, which also remains on sale

ALL RAYON REP WEAVE - 11/3

ALL SILK REP WEAVE - 16/9

Plus postage 6d.

AND A NEW SCARF

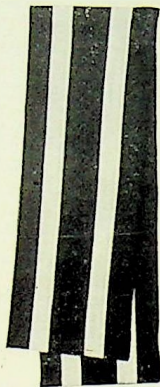
**MODERN STYLE
SAXONY FLANNEL
TOC H SCARVES**

White and amber stripes on black
60 inches by 9 inches

27/9

Plus postage 1s.

Both obtainable direct from the
OFFICIAL TOC H OUTFITTER



C. R. THOMPSON LTD.

41, Railway Approach, London, S.E.1